

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2673

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016

Availability of Foodgrains

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the comparative figures of per capita availability and consumption of foodgrains in rural and urban areas of the country in 2000-2001 and at present;
- (b) whether foodgrains being provided to families living Below Poverty Line (BPL) is equal to the per capita average consumption in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate availability of foodgrains in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): The per capita net availability of foodgrains for the years 2001, 2005, 2010, 2014 and 2015 is given below. The rural- urban break-up of data is not available.

(Kg. per year)

Year Per capita net availability of foodgrains

2001 151.9

2005 154.2

2010 159.5

2014 178.6

2015 (P) 169.8

(P) Provisional

As per the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (various rounds) carried out by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), between 2004-05 and 2011-12 (latest available) per capita consumption of cereals and pulses and pulse products is indicated below :

(Kg. per year)

2004-05 2009-10 2011-12

Rural Urban Rural Urban Rural Urban

Cereals 147.46 120.94 138.08 114.05 136.51 112.91

Pulses & Pulse Products 8.64 9.98 7.92 9.60 9.53 10.96

Source : Various Rounds of NSSO.

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(b) & (c): Government has enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA) under which foodgrains are provided to the priority category at the rate of 5kg per person per month and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households at the rate of 35kg per family per month at highly subsidized price of Rs. 1/2/3 per kg for coarse grains/wheat/rice respectively. The Act covers 75% of population in rural areas and 50% in urban areas. The States which have not implemented NFSA are being allocated foodgrains under the erstwhile Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for Below Poverty Line (BPL) including AAY families at the rate of 35kg per family per month and Above Poverty Line (APL) at the rate of 15-35kg per family per month.

(d): In order to increase farm productivity and production Government has taken various initiatives viz. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Soil Health Card (SHC), promotion of use of Neem Coated Urea, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) etc. Government has also taken steps for increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs, extension,

marketing etc. to improve agricultural production and productivity. Other measures taken by the Government include incentivisation through higher Minimum Support Prices of agricultural commodities, increase in credit flow to agriculture sector, interest subvention on crop loans etc.

In addition, Government facilitates imports of various agricultural commodities to augment their domestic availability.
